

THE LACLEDE BLADE

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A. J. CAYWOOD.

Friday, January 29, 1915.

Increase of Unemployment

The report of the mayor's committee on unemployment, as published in the New York newspapers of January 15, indicates a distressing condition. It shows that in December, 1914, slightly less than 200,000 more persons were out of employment in Greater New York than in December, 1913. This showing becomes the more unfavorable in view of the fact that in December, 1913, three months after the enactment of the Underwood free-trade tariff, the percentage of unemployment had greatly increased as compared with the corresponding period in 1912, under a protective tariff. To add 200,000 to the number unemployed a year ago means that there has been an increase of poverty and privation among nearly a million people in this city. At least 500,000 former wage earners are now earning no wages at all, and more than two million human beings are being deprived of their normal sources of support.

Democratic Extravagance

State Treasurer Deal's report to the forty-eighth general assembly, made public at Jefferson City, Missouri, on Jan. 17th, exposes the economy claims of democratic officials and lays bare in a comparative statement the increased expenditure of the taxpayer's money during 1913 and 1914, over the years of 1911 and 1912, when a republican governor controlled the state's finances.

Mr. Deal shows that the gross excess of expenditures during the last two years over the preceding two years was \$3,790,734.94. That is, during the first two years of the Major administration that amount was spent in excess of the amount spent during the last two years of the Hadley administration. Therefore, it has cost the people of this state \$3,790,734.94 more for two years of democratic rule than for the preceding two years under a republican governor. Mr. Deal further shows that while the receipts of the office of secretary of state decreased \$61,015.88 the cost of administration increased \$6,279.55.

The insurance department increased its receipts \$1,157.26, but it was at an extra cost of administration amounting to \$13,795.61 or in other words it cost the tax payers of the state \$13,795.61 to produce \$1,157.26. This would appear to the ordinary individual to be a pretty costly method of increasing collections.

It also appears that much of the increase at the state penitentiary was due to increase in the number of employees and increasing the salaries of employees. The report shows that the state has been spending more than it has received.

Notwithstanding these facts the state legislature has before it bills to further increase the cost of state government. If the increase in the cost of administering the state government had been due to a growth in population of penal and eleemosynary institutions or to additional and necessary work in other institutions no reasonable person would have objected. But much of the increase has been due solely to wasteful methods in administration. Thus in both state and national government the cost of administering the affairs of government under democratic management has increased, and in

each instance the people of this country are forced to foot the bills. So much for the democratic campaign promises of economy.—Milan Republican.

What a Farm Advisor Did

When Sam Jordan began his work as farm advisor in Pettis county two and one-half years ago, alfalfa was being grown on only ten farms in the county. Now one hundred and fifty farmers are growing it successfully. Only one farmer was growing soy beans when Mr. Jordan came. Last season more than five thousand acres were devoted to the crop. Under Mr. Jordan's teachings nearly all the children attending the rural schools now are as expert as their fathers in inspecting wheat fields for the Hessian fly, and can just as readily identify buckhorn, bracted plantain, sour dock and other noxious weeds among grasses.

Since Mr. Jordan came he has obtained for the county \$45,000 in free veterinary service from the government. He has advocated deeper plowing and farmers are now plowing an average of one inch deeper throughout the county. That means increased yield in all crops cultivated.

In the last year Mr. Jordan addressed 121 meetings in the county, with an estimated attendance of 18,960 persons. He wrote 260 articles, or 57,250 words, for the newspapers; wrote 1,941 letters pertaining to his work, had 1,668 callers at his office, gave information over the telephone to more than nine hundred persons and traveled four thousand miles in the county inspecting the soil, crops and giving advice as to how to destroy the army worm, chinch bug and other pests.

Wives Wanted

Assistant Immigration Agent Lovelace of the Burlington Railroad at Omaha, Nebr., is in receipt of information from Wyoming indicating that nowhere in the United States are there such opportunities for women as out there. Figures of the state labor commissioner's office show that taking the state as a whole there are 100 women to every 150 men.

Of the men something like three fifths of them are engaged in agricultural and live stock pursuits, with about two-thirds of this number owning their own homes. Of the farmers and cattlemen but about one-half of them are married, and of those who are unmarried more than 40 per cent are anxious to secure wives, providing they could find women who would be willing to live in the country.

According to the Wyoming statistics, the greater number of married men live in cities and towns, and it is in these cities and towns where most of the unmarried women reside, the occupation of domestics, clerks and stenographers. However, there are a goodly number of unmarried women who are residents of the country districts, and of these practically all are land owners, the most of them having taken homesteads.

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